

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a base having upper and lower end portions;

a pedal having an upper major foot engageable surface, the pedal being pivotally coupled to the lower end portion of the base for movement between an idle position to a depressed position;

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an arm member having a first end portion pivotally coupled at a first location to the pedal and a second end portion coupled at a second location to the base, the second location being below the first location when the pedal is in the idle position, extending downwardly from the pedal, the arm member being coupled to the base so as to be movable relative to the base when the pedal is pivoted toward and away from the base between a the depressed position and an the idle position, respectively; and

an adjustment mechanism for coupling the upper end portion of the base to the wall of the vehicle, the adjustment mechanism being configured to selectively vary the fore-aft position of the base and the pedal from the wall of the vehicle.

2. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 1, wherein the adjustment mechanism comprises a rotatable screw configured to be mounted to the wall of the vehicle and a carrier bracket threadably engaging the screw and coupled to the upper end portion of the base, wherein rotation of the screw in a first direction causes the carrier bracket to move the base and the pedal away from the wall and rotation of the screw in a second direction causes the carrier bracket to move the base and the pedal toward the wall.

3. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 1, comprising at least one roller rotatably mounted to the arm member, the roller being positioned for rolling contact along the base when the pedal is pivoted toward and away from the base, the roller coupling the arm member to the base.

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4. (Currently Amended) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a base having upper and lower end portions;
a pedal having an upper major foot engageable surface, the pedal being pivotally coupled to the lower end portion of the base;
an arm member having a first end portion pivotally coupled to the pedal and extending downwardly from the pedal, the arm member being coupled to the base so as to be movable relative to the base when the pedal is pivoted toward and away from the base between a depressed position and an idle position, respectively; and
an adjustment mechanism for coupling the upper end portion of the base to the wall of the vehicle, the adjustment mechanism being configured to selectively vary the fore-aft position of the base and the pedal from the wall of the vehicle;

The pedal assembly of claim 1, wherein the upper end portion of the base is pivotally coupled to the adjustment mechanism to permit pivoting of the base toward and away from the floor of the vehicle.

5. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 4, further comprising a biasing mechanism operatively connected to the adjustment mechanism and the upper end portion of the base, the biasing mechanism being configured to bias the base toward the floor of the vehicle.

6. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 1, comprising at least one roller which is rotatably coupled to the lower end portion of the base and positioned for supporting the base on the floor of the vehicle or a rub pad placed on the floor.

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7. (Currently Amended) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a base having upper and lower end portions;

a pedal having an upper major foot engageable surface, the pedal being pivotally coupled to the lower end portion of the base;

an arm member having a first end portion pivotally coupled to the pedal and extending downwardly from the pedal, the arm member being coupled to the base so as to be movable relative to the base when the pedal is pivoted toward and away from the base between a depressed position and an idle position, respectively; and

an adjustment mechanism for coupling the upper end portion of the base to the wall of the vehicle, the adjustment mechanism being configured to selectively vary the fore-aft position of the base and the pedal from the wall of the vehicle;

The pedal assembly of claim 1, wherein the adjustment mechanism is configured to be mounted to the vehicle wall, the adjustment mechanism being vertically adjustable with respect to the wall.

8. (Original) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a foot pedal having an upper major foot engageable surface and an opposing lower major surface;

a pedal support portion, the pedal carried by the pedal support portion; and

B₁ a pedal position mover for coupling the pedal support portion to the wall of the vehicle, the pedal position mover being configured to selectively vary the fore and aft position of the pedal support portion, and thereby the pedal, relative to the wall of the vehicle, the pedal position mover being vertically adjustable along the wall, wherein vertical adjustment of the pedal position mover can be made independently of any fore-aft adjustment of the pedal support portion and the pedal.

9. (Original) The foot pedal assembly of claim 8, wherein the pedal support portion has upper and lower end portions and the pedal has upper and lower end portions, the lower end portion of the pedal being pivotally coupled to the lower end portion of the pedal support portion, and the pedal assembly further comprising a pivot support member having a first end portion and a second end portion, the first end portion of the pivot support member being pivotally coupled to the pedal and extending from the lower major surface of the pedal, the second end portion of the pivot support member being positioned to move relative to the pedal support portion upon pivoting of the pedal toward and away from the pedal support portion between a depressed position and an idle position, respectively, and a biasing element interposed between the pedal and pedal support portion to urge the pedal toward the idle position.

10. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 9, comprising at least one roller rotatably coupled to the lower end portion of the pedal support portion, the roller being positioned for rolling contact with the floor of the vehicle when the pedal position mover is activated to vary the fore-aft position of the pedal support portion.

11. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 8, wherein the pedal support portion comprises an upper end portion pivotally coupled to the pedal position mover to permit pivoting of the pedal support portion toward and away from the floor of the vehicle.

B, 12. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 11, further comprising a biasing element for urging the pedal support portion toward the floor of the vehicle.

13. (Currently Amended) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a segmented pedal support portion having a first upper segment and a second lower segment, the upper segment being pivotally coupled to the lower segment to permit pivoting of the lower segment relative to the floor of the vehicle about a pivot axis extending through the upper segment and the lower segment;

a foot pedal carried by and pivotally coupled to the lower segment of the pedal support portion; and

a fore-aft position adjuster carrying the upper segment of the pedal support portion and configured to be mounted to the wall of the vehicle, the fore-aft position adjuster being

configured to selectively vary the fore and aft position of the pedal support portion, and thereby the pedal, relative to the wall of the vehicle.

14. (Currently Amended) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a segmented pedal support portion having a first upper segment and a second lower segment, the upper segment being pivotally coupled to the lower segment to permit pivoting of the lower segment relative to the floor of the vehicle;

a foot pedal carried by the lower segment of the pedal support portion; and

a fore-aft position adjuster carrying the upper segment of the pedal support portion and configured to be mounted to the wall of the vehicle, the fore-aft position adjuster being configured to selectively vary the fore and aft position of the pedal support portion, and thereby the pedal, relative to the wall of the vehicle;

~~The pedal assembly of claim 13,~~ wherein the fore-aft position adjuster is configured to be vertically adjustable along the wall to selectively vary the elevation of the upper segment of the pedal support portion, wherein the elevation of the upper segment of the pedal support portion is independently adjustable of the fore and aft position of the pedal support portion and the pedal.

15. (Currently Amended) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a segmented pedal support portion having a first upper segment and a second lower segment, the upper segment being pivotally coupled to the lower segment to permit pivoting of the lower segment relative to the floor of the vehicle;

a foot pedal carried by the lower segment of the pedal support portion;

a fore-aft position adjuster carrying the upper segment of the pedal support portion and configured to be mounted to the wall of the vehicle, the fore-aft position adjuster being configured to selectively vary the fore and aft position of the pedal support portion, and thereby the pedal, relative to the wall of the vehicle; and

~~The pedal assembly of claim 13, further comprising~~ a biasing element interposed between the upper segment and the lower segment of the pedal support portion to urge the lower segment of the pedal support portion toward the floor of the vehicle.

B, 16. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 13, wherein the fore-aft position adjuster comprises a rotatable screw for mounting to the wall of the vehicle and the upper segment of the pedal support portion comprises a carrier bracket threadably engaging the screw, wherein rotation of the screw in a first direction causes the carrier bracket to move the pedal support portion and the pedal away from the wall and rotation of the screw in a second direction causes the carrier bracket to move the pedal support portion and the pedal toward the wall.

17. (Currently Amended) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a segmented pedal support portion having a first upper segment and a second lower segment, the upper segment being pivotally coupled to the lower segment to permit pivoting of the lower segment relative to the floor of the vehicle;

a foot pedal carried by the lower segment of the pedal support portion;

a fore-aft position adjuster carrying the upper segment of the pedal support portion and configured to be mounted to the wall of the vehicle, the fore-aft position adjuster being configured to selectively vary the fore and aft position of the pedal support portion, and thereby the pedal, relative to the wall of the vehicle; and

~~The pedal assembly of claim 13, further comprising~~ a rub pad for placement on the floor of the vehicle and a shaft rotatably mounted to the lower segment of the pedal support portion, the shaft being positioned for rolling contact on the rub pad when the fore-aft position adjuster is activated to adjust the position of the pedal support portion and pedal fore and aft relative to the vehicle wall.

B₁ 18. (Original) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a pedal support portion having an upper end portion and a lower end portion; and
a foot pedal carried by the pedal support portion;

wherein the upper end portion of the pedal support portion is configured to be mounted for vertical movement along the wall of the vehicle to permit adjustment of the vertical position of the upper end portion of the pedal support portion.

19. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 18, further comprising a mounting bracket coupled to the upper end portion of the pedal support portion, the mounting bracket being configured to be slidably mounted to the vehicle wall.

20. (Previously Presented) The pedal assembly of claim 19, wherein the mounting bracket defines at least one vertically elongated slot for receiving a releasable fastener, the slot being dimensioned to permit sliding of the mounting bracket relative to the fastener when the fastener is released from securing the mounting bracket against the wall.

B, 21. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 19, further comprising a rotatable screw coupled to and extending outwardly from the mounting bracket and a bracket member threadably engaging the screw, the bracket member being coupled to the upper end portion of the pedal support portion, wherein rotation of the screw in a first direction causes the bracket member to move the pedal support portion and the pedal away from the wall and rotation of the screw in a second direction causes the bracket member to move the pedal support portion and the pedal toward the wall.

22. (Currently Amended) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a pedal assembly support surface ~~such as a floor or a pad on the floor~~, the pedal assembly comprising:

pedal support means for engaging the pedal assembly support surface;

a pedal pivotally coupled to the pedal support means and extending generally above the pedal support means, the pedal being operable to be pivoted relative to the pedal support means between a depressed position and an idle position;

means for biasing the pedal to the idle position;

adjustment means for adjusting the position of the pedal support means and the pedal toward and away from the wall; and

roller means mounted to the pedal support means and positioned for rolling contact with the pedal assembly support surface when the adjustment means is activated to adjust the position of the pedal support means toward and away from the wall.

23. (Previously Presented) The pedal assembly of claim 22, further comprising a rubber pad placed on the floor of the vehicle with an upper surface comprising the pedal assembly support surface and the upper surface being in a position to engage the roller means.

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24. (Original) The pedal assembly of claim 22, wherein the adjustment means comprises a jack screw configured for mounting to the vehicle wall and a positioner means threadably engaging the screw and coupled to the pedal support means, wherein rotation of the screw in a first direction causes the positioner means to move the pedal support means and the pedal away from the wall and rotation of the screw in a second direction causes the positioner means to move the pedal support means and the pedal toward the wall.

25. (Currently Amended) A support for supporting a foot pedal in a vehicle driver compartment comprising a wall, a floor and an inclined toe board extending between the wall and the floor, the support comprising:

a vertical upper end portion for extending generally parallel to the wall;

a horizontal lower end portion for extending generally parallel to the floor; and

an angled intermediate portion extending between the upper end portion and the lower end portion such that the upper end portion, the lower end portion, and the intermediate portion

define a shape that generally corresponds to the shape defined by the wall, the floor, and toe board;

wherein the vehicle compartment further comprises a rotatable screw extending from the wall and the upper end portion comprises a threaded bracket configured to engage the screw for adjusting the fore-aft position of the support while maintaining the elevation of the support upon rotation of the screw.

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26. (Currently Amended) A support for supporting a foot pedal in a vehicle driver compartment comprising a wall, a floor and an inclined toe board extending between the wall and the floor, the support comprising:

a vertical upper end portion for extending generally parallel to the wall;
a horizontal lower end portion for extending generally parallel to the floor; and
an angled intermediate portion extending between the upper end portion and the lower end portion;

~~The support of claim 25,~~ wherein the upper end portion is pivotally coupled to the intermediate portion so that the intermediate portion and the lower end portion can pivot toward and away from the floor.

27. (Original) The support of claim 26, further comprising a biasing element coupling the upper end portion and the intermediate portion, the biasing element urging the intermediate portion and the lower end portion toward the floor.

28. (Currently Amended) The support of claim 25, wherein the ~~vehicle compartment further comprises a rotatable screw extending from the wall and the upper end portion comprises a threaded bracket configured to engage the screw for adjusting the fore-aft position of the support upon rotation of the screw~~ upper end portion is pivotally coupled to the intermediate portion.

29. (Original) The support of claim 26, wherein the vehicle compartment further comprises a rotatable screw extending from the wall and the upper end portion comprises a carrier member configured to threadably engage the screw for adjusting the fore-aft position of the support upon rotation of the screw.

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30. (Original) A method for adjusting the position of a foot pedal support in a vehicle driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the method comprising:

adjusting the elevation of the support above the floor of the vehicle in a generally vertical direction; and

adjusting the fore-aft position of the support relative to the wall of the vehicle in a generally horizontal direction independently of adjusting the elevation of the support.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising adjusting the elevation of the support above the floor of the vehicle in a generally vertical direction while maintaining the fore-aft position of the support relative to the wall.

32. (Original) The method of claim 30, further comprising adjusting the fore-aft position of the support relative to the wall of the vehicle in a generally horizontal direction while maintaining the elevation of the support above the floor.

33. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein adjusting the elevation of the support above the floor of the vehicle also adjusts the angle of a pedal supported by the support relative to the wall of the vehicle.

34. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein adjusting the elevation of the support above the floor of the vehicle also adjusts the elevation of a pedal supported by the support.

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35. (Previously Presented) An adjustable foot pedal assembly for a vehicle having a driver compartment comprising a wall and a floor, the pedal assembly comprising:

a base having upper and lower end portions and an upper surface;

a pedal having upper and lower surfaces and upper and lower end portions, the lower end portion of the pedal being pivotally mounted to the lower end portion of the base;

a lever arm having first and second ends, the first end being pivotally mounted on the lower surface of the pedal, the lever arm extending generally downwardly from the lower surface, the second end movably engaging the base so as to be movable along the upper surface of the base, wherein the pedal causes the second end to move relative to the base when the pedal is pivoted toward and away from the base between a depressed position and an idle position, respectively;

a mounting bracket for mounting to the wall;

a rotatable screw carried by the mounting bracket;

a carrier bracket threadably engaging the screw, the upper end portion of the base being pivotally coupled to the carrier bracket to permit pivoting of the base relative to the carrier bracket and toward and away from a bottom surface of the vehicle, and wherein the position of the base and pedal relative to the wall is adjustable upon rotation of the screw;

a biasing mechanism carried by the carrier bracket to urge the base toward the bottom surface of the vehicle; and

a roller rotatably mounted to the lower end portion of the base, the roller being positioned for rolling contact on the bottom surface of the vehicle.

B₁ 36. (New) The pedal assembly of claim 1, wherein the upper end portion of the base is pivotally coupled to the adjustment mechanism to permit pivoting of the base toward and away from the floor of the vehicle.

37. (New) The pedal assembly of claim 36, further comprising a biasing mechanism operatively connected to the adjustment mechanism and the upper end portion of the base, the biasing mechanism being configured to bias the base toward the floor of the vehicle.

38. (New) The pedal assembly of claim 1, wherein the adjustment mechanism is configured to be mounted to the vehicle wall, the adjustment mechanism being vertically adjustable with respect to the wall.

39. (New) The pedal assembly of claim 13, wherein the fore-aft position adjuster is configured to be vertically adjustable along the wall to selectively vary the elevation of the upper segment of the pedal support portion, wherein the elevation of the upper segment of the pedal support portion is independently adjustable of the fore and aft position of the pedal support portion and the pedal.

40. (New) The pedal assembly of claim 13, further comprising a biasing element interposed between the upper segment and the lower segment of the pedal support portion to urge the lower segment of the pedal support portion toward the floor of the vehicle.

B, 41. (New) The pedal assembly of claim 13, further comprising a rub pad for placement on the floor of the vehicle and a shaft rotatably mounted to the lower segment of the pedal support portion, the shaft being positioned for rolling contact on the rub pad when the fore-aft position adjuster is activated to adjust the position of the pedal support portion and pedal fore and aft relative to the vehicle wall.

42. (New) The support of claim 25, wherein the upper end portion is pivotally coupled to the intermediate portion so that the intermediate portion and the lower end portion can pivot toward and away from the floor.

43. (New) The support of claim 42, further comprising a biasing element coupling the upper end portion and the intermediate portion, the biasing element urging the intermediate portion and the lower end portion toward the floor.

44. (New) The support of claim 42, wherein the vehicle compartment further comprises a rotatable screw extending from the wall and the upper end portion comprises a carrier member configured to threadably engage the screw for adjusting the fore-aft position of the support upon rotation of the screw.

B 45. (New) The pedal assembly of claim 22, wherein the means for biasing the pedal to the idle position comprises an arm member having a first end portion pivotally coupled to the pedal and a second end portion having roller means positioned for rolling contact with the pedal support means.
